

House File 2070 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2070

BY HAYES

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to an indoor mold information and public
2 awareness program.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 135.39F Indoor mold public
2 information and awareness program.

3 1. As used in this section, "*indoor mold*" means any
4 form of multi-cellular fungi, including but not limited to
5 cladosporium, penicillium, alternaria, aspergillus, fusarium,
6 trichoderma, memnoniella, mucor, and stachybotrys chartarum,
7 found in damp or water-damaged indoor environments and building
8 materials.

9 2. The department shall establish an indoor mold public
10 information and awareness program to assist the public in
11 understanding the threat of indoor mold found in indoor
12 environments and the importance of the proper removal of indoor
13 mold. As part of the program, the department shall do all of
14 the following:

15 a. Beginning July 1, 2024, review the adverse effects
16 to humans from exposure to indoor mold found in damp and
17 water-damaged indoor environments. In reviewing the adverse
18 effects, the department shall consult with medical research
19 institutions and organizations with expertise in the adverse
20 effects of such exposure. The department shall submit a report
21 of its findings and recommendations to the general assembly by
22 June 30, 2025.

23 b. Every five years, beginning July 1, 2025, review
24 technology or treatment techniques for indoor mold
25 identification and remediation that provide additional
26 protections to public health and safety. The review performed
27 shall include an examination of any new scientific evidence
28 that indicates that indoor mold may present a greater health
29 risk to the public than previously determined. The department
30 shall submit a report to the general assembly following
31 completion of each review, including the findings of and
32 recommendations for additional protections for the public
33 health and safety based on the review.

34 c. Establish a public information and awareness campaign
35 on the dangers of indoor mold and damp or water-damaged

1 indoor environments. The campaign shall educate the public on
2 the health effects of indoor mold in damp and water-damaged
3 buildings and building materials, and on the methods of
4 identifying and remediating indoor mold, and shall provide
5 contact information for organizations or government agencies
6 that assist the public with indoor mold concerns.

7 3. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A,
8 including the requirements and procedures for the five-year
9 review and the parameters for the public information and
10 awareness campaign, and any other rules necessary to administer
11 this section.

12 EXPLANATION

13 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
14 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

15 This bill relates to an indoor mold public information and
16 awareness program. The bill defines "indoor mold" for the
17 purposes of the bill to include any form of multi-cellular
18 fungi found in damp or water-damaged indoor environments and
19 building materials.

20 The bill requires the department of health and human
21 services (HHS) to establish an indoor mold public information
22 and awareness program to assist the public in understanding the
23 threat of indoor mold in indoor environments and the importance
24 of the proper removal of indoor mold. As part of the program,
25 the department shall: beginning July 1, 2024, review the
26 adverse effects to humans from exposure to indoor mold in
27 damp and water-damaged indoor environments by consulting
28 with medical research institutions and organizations with
29 expertise in the adverse effects of such exposure, and submit a
30 report including findings and recommendations to the general
31 assembly by June 30, 2025; every five years, beginning July
32 1, 2025, review technology or treatment techniques for indoor
33 mold identification and remediation that provide additional
34 protections to public health and safety, and submit a report
35 to the general assembly following completion of each review;

1 and establish a public information and awareness campaign on
2 the dangers of indoor mold and damp or water-damaged indoor
3 environments to educate the public on the health effects of
4 indoor mold, the methods of identifying and remediating indoor
5 mold, and providing contact information for sources to assist
6 the public with concerns regarding indoor mold. The bill
7 directs HHS to adopt administrative rules to administer the
8 bill.